

NKR inhibitory immunoreceptor and the 3' and 5' oligonucleotide pair(s), wherein detection of hybridization between the nucleic acid encoding the NK inhibitor immunoreceptor and the 3' and 5' oligonucleotide pair(s) identifies the repertoire of NK inhibitor receptors.

R E M A R K S

Claims 24-39 and 50-83 are currently pending. The Examiner has indicated that claims 59-61, 69, 79, and 80 are allowed in view of the absence of any prior art. Claims 58, 62-78 and 81-83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claim 58 to correct a typographical error. Specifically, claim 58 has been amended to replace SEQ ID No "o" with SEQ ID No "6"

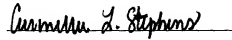
Claims 24-39 and 50-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. To expedite the issuance of a patent, Applicants have canceled claims 24-39 and 50-55, without prejudice. The subject matter encompassed by the canceled claims will be pursued in a continuation application.

For reasons detailed below, the rejection of the claims should be withdrawn. Entry of the foregoing amendments and remarks into the file of the above identified application is respectfully requested. The Applicants believe that the invention described and defined by the amended claims is patentable over the rejections of the

Examiner. Withdrawal of all rejections and reconsideration of the amended claims is requested. An early allowance is earnestly sought.

Respectfully submitted,

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